

Avera job shadow inspires students

Shilpa Chandran
Opinion Editor

The Avera job shadowing program is back. Ever since the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) was passed, job shadowing programs across the nation ended.

“HIPAA caused our program to end four or five years ago,” said anatomy teacher Mr. Doug Peterson. “We just started it up again this year.”

Because this law is designed to protect the privacy of patients and their records, students could not easily examine a career in the medical field.

“We were not able to allow students in areas where there would be a risk of contamination or where privacy of the patient could be compromised,” said Ann Thompson, director of Workforce Development at Avera. “All patients had to agree a student could get into their area as part of the rules.”

After much discussion, Avera allowed students to shadow willing employees. Participating students chose what occupations they might be interested in and took four hours to shadow an individual in that particular field.

There was an extensive variety of careers that appealed to students of diverse interests. Jobs available varied from speech therapy positions to business marketing workers.

“I thought it was kind of neat how we were able to go see all different kinds of careers that we normally would not be able to [see],” said junior Kaylee Prochniak, a student who was involved in the program.

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Lunch leaves many questions unanswered

Patrick W. Linsenmeyer
Design Editor

Waiting in line for lunch at O’Gorman, students have many things going through their minds. Unfortunately, the price they are actually paying for that lunch is not always at the forefront. While the “A” lunch price of \$2.10 is

somewhat well known, the cost of other items seems more elusive.

“I have no idea how much my usual lunch costs,” said sophomore Taylor Hilmoe. “Maybe I should look into that.”

Still, this problem is not restricted to only a small group of students. Out of 25 people interviewed by *The Scroll*, only one thought she knew the price of a

standard “B” line meal plus one fruit parfait.

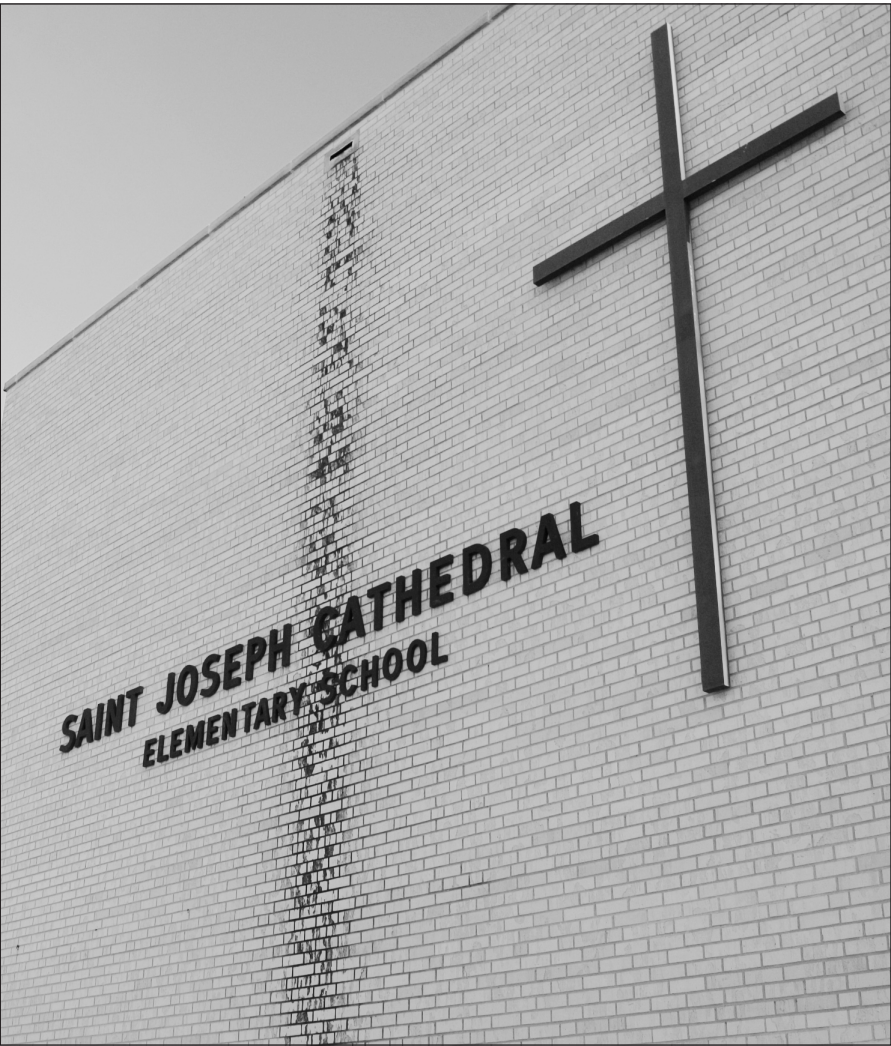
“The prices are posted on the Sioux Falls Catholic Schools’ Web site,” said Janine Dagostaro, Food Site Manager.

But looking at the Web site still leaves the majority of questions unanswered. In fact, the Web site only lists the standard lunch, not any of the “B” line extras.

This void of information may have led to another problem as well.

Prices seem erratic. To test this hypothesis, students were told to ask how much their lunch had just cost. The results found inconsistencies: a standard meal costing \$2.10 while two entrées,

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JOE KLEIN / KNIGHT SCROLL

St. Joseph Cathedral School will be consolidated next year.

Cathedral Elementary to consolidate next year

Tanya Kapoor
Editor-in-Chief

Sioux Falls’ oldest Catholic school will soon graduate its last class. Ten sixth graders will be the last of generations of students who are able to say that they completed elementary school at St. Joseph Cathedral as the school plans to consolidate next year.

“I think people have had a sense that the consolidation would happen at some point, but I think the timing of this decision may have caught them a bit off guard. Cathedral School has been open for more than 100 years,” said Sioux Falls Catholic School Board Member Mr. John Lown, representing Cathedral Parish. “Many generations of families have sent their children to that school and have very fond memories of it. Generally speaking, I think that most people’s reactions have been one of disappointment. They really hate to see all that history and tradition come to an end.”

Because of decreasing enrollment and single-section classes, the School Board and Bishop Paul Swain have decided to

consolidate, not close, St. Joseph Cathedral School. Students will be allowed to attend schools that are closer to their homes.

“This is a consolidation. I certainly prefer that to closing,” said Sioux Falls Catholic Schools’ Superintendent Dr. Tom Lorang. “The Bishop has been direct: another educational use will be found for the school.”

Currently, students from three parishes—St. Joseph Cathedral, St. Josephine Bakhita and Our Lady of Guadalupe—attend Cathedral. Next year, students from St. Joseph Cathedral will attend Christ the King, and students from St. Josephine Bakhita and Our Lady of Guadalupe will attend St. Lambert.

“When we looked where the students actually lived, we found out that students from Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish actually lived closer to St. Lambert than Cathedral,” said Lorang. “Christ the King was mainly chosen because of its proximity to where the students live.”

See Cathedral page 11

Mr. Jim Smith announces final year as band director

Melissa Rushing
Assistant Editor

After a teaching career spanning more than four decades – twenty-seven years of that spent as band director at O’Gorman – Mr. Jim Smith, affectionately called Smitty, has announced that he will not be returning for the 2009-2010 school year. He first announced his decision in a before-school meeting with the band students on March 6.

“[I told the band kids first because] I owed it to them. The kids are the reason why I do this, and I told administration the day before and told them to keep it quiet because I didn’t want the kids to find out through somebody else,” said Smith. “There’s been rumors the last few years, and they were strictly rumors.”

In his announcement to the band students Smith said that “retire” was not exactly the right word to describe his decision.

“I’m afraid retiring is doing little or nothing and I can’t afford not to do something. I’ll still be judging, and I’ll probably do some substitute teaching,” said Smith.

“It just got to be about time. I’ve been doing this a long, long time. I know no other life. It’s getting harder; you get more tired. The pace doesn’t let up, but you get slower, you get more tired, you go to bed earlier,” said Smith. “You get done with marching band and you go right to bed. I’m really about four years past what most people call retirement age. So it was time.”

“I got a lot of emails those first few days [after announcing my leaving] – and phone calls,” said Smith of the student and parent reaction. “What I did was that morning I announced it to the kids, and as soon as first period was over that day, I sent an email to the staff and to all the parents that I was not coming back. There was a lot of response; I got a lot of people expressing their appreciation and things like that. It’s kind of overwhelming sometimes. It wasn’t an easy decision to make.”

“Smitty will be missed by a lot of people,” said senior Tyler Mattson. “He is loved by many band members, but he has been working for this school for so long [that] he definitely deserves to retire.”

“It’s bittersweet,” said senior John Buchkoski. “It’s the end of a great legacy - no other band director has had the kind of tenure that he does. But it’s also time for him to relax. He’s had such a great career here at O’Gorman and hopefully he can stay part of O’Gorman.”

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Letter from the editor

Tanya Kapoor
Editor-in-Chief

During my senior year, I have always felt as I if I were ready to go on to college. As I approach my last quarter of high school, though, I feel an urge to relive the memories that made high school unique. I have suddenly realized that my memories are not just mine. Most of my memories are entwined with those of over 170 classmates and will be irreplaceable as we all leave high school and begin our lives.

Sometimes, I have become so absorbed in studying for my next math test or writing my next English paper that I have forgotten to realize that O’Gorman has given this year’s class some special experiences. We have developed friendships, discovered ourselves, and developed a sense of gratitude throughout high school.

Personally, I’ve had four years of memories to examine. Despite that, I have wracked my heart and mind over what I should write and have struggled to find my voice. After writing a draft that deeply unsatisfied me, I realized that some of my memories are shared by people who are not in my graduating class.

One of the most rewarding experiences in all of high school is writing for *The*



Scroll. I share my experiences as a writer, designer and editor with sophomores, juniors, seniors and alumni.

Like this letter, the next two paragraphs have been difficult to write. Some feelings can never be conveyed in words, and the appreciation that I have for certain people fits into that category.

Mr. Van Engen, for example, has been a godsend for these past two years. Last September, when we had too many articles for eight pages, he believed in our ability to increase our newspaper. Moreover, he motivates us to give the most of ourselves to our work. I really don’t think we would be able to create the same newspaper without his insight.

Also, one senior that I’ve worked

with the longest is Melissa Rushing, an individual who spends hours designing the paper. Melissa proves that my experiences on *The Scroll* entail more than just stress and deadlines. Before joining *The Scroll*, I rarely talked to Melissa, but the paper forged a friendship between the two of us.

More than friendship, the paper has convinced us that writing, in my case, or journalism, in Melissa’s case, are truly our lifelong passions. Few other high school activities have the power to do that.

Some memories are still powerful even though they cannot be revisited during my last quarter of high school. Mr. Basche’s old murals always appear in my mind whenever I think of my junior year or old O-Wing. Their vivid colors deeply contrast with the taupe walls of the new school and convince me that creativity can inspire anyone in a very demanding and rewarding class.

Maybe that is what high school encouraged us to do. Maybe high school inspired us to use our creativity to search for the best experiences in four years marked by school, strain, and stress. No one’s high school years are ideal, but our creativity can make them seem so. Good memories cannot be demolished by a bulldozer or finished during the last day of a high school activity. Such high school memories are indestructible because they become a part of us.

Avera

Continued from page 1

Peterson’s anatomy students, juniors and seniors, participated in the shadowing program.

This shadowing project was a mandated assignment for the students, worth as much as a test grade.

“I believe this is positive for the students in two different ways,” said Peterson. “First, [shadowing] reinforces their dreams. Second, it helps them to find out if [a career in the medical field] is not for them.”

The project was not quite as simple as leaving school one day.

Beforehand, students had to sign an agreement stating that they understood and would abide by the regulations of HIPAA.

They also had to fill out a list of ten questions to ask the person whom they were shadowing.

“Even as someone who is not looking to go into the medical field, [the program] was a really interesting glimpse of the health industry,” said senior Andy Thuringer, who was also involved in the program. “It was a new experience.”

After returning from the trip, the students continued to delve into their careers. They wrote a report discussing their career choice and their trip.

Moreover, they gave an oral presentation to the class. Their final grade consisted both of the preparation, the actual trip, and the assignments afterward.

“It helps the students to see anatomy in the real world,” said Peterson. “It gives insight to the future, and it is so important to make my class real.”

After the project, the students completed a survey, giving their perspective on the job shadowing and how it affected them.

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Guest Columnist

Joe Scholten

Adviser

Jason A. Van Engen

Contact

Email:
ogscroll@gmail.com
jvanengen@sfcss.org

Address:

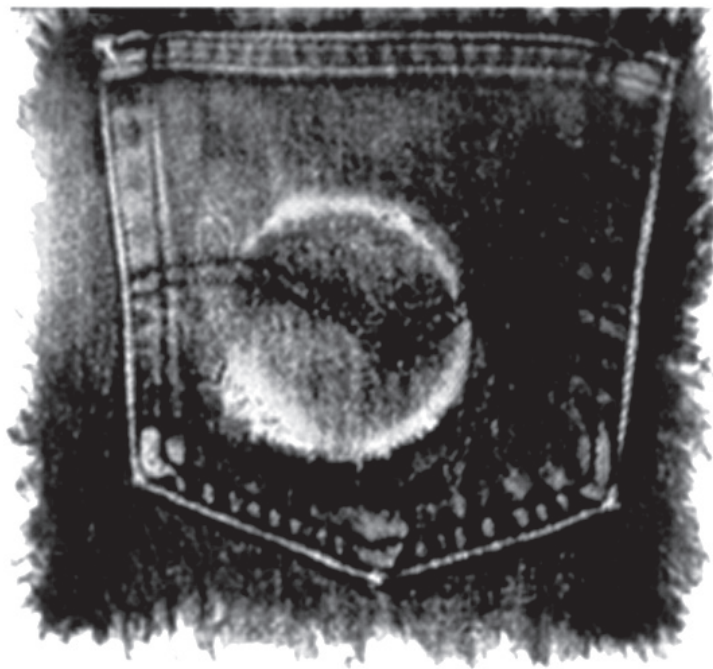
Knight Scroll
SFCS
3201 S Kiwanis Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57105

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First Warning Sign of Cancer.

Spit Tobacco: Not a Safe Alternative.

O’Gorman T.A.T.U.

Catholic Culture promotes understanding of faith

Maegen Lipetzky
Faith Co-Editor

From angels to exorcisms, the Catholic Culture Club enlightens students about the Church's teaching on many topics.

Ms. Jennifer Moser, the Campus Minister, heads this group.

Her hopes for this group are to introduce

students to the seemingly unfamiliar teachings and devotions of the Church

"Many of us know and can explain the basics of the faith," said Moser. "However, we may not have ever been taught about some of the beautiful practices of prayer and devotion that have developed over the 2,000 years of Church history."

If any of the students has a question about doctrine, he or she can propose that

for the discussion topic. Also, Moser chooses the topics if no students offer a suggestion. She typically selects a subject dealing with particular teachings or devotional practices.

"I have chosen based on things I have encountered recently or things that I, myself, do not know much about," said Moser.

Generally, 15 to 20 students attend this group that meets 4B and 5C in the Campus Ministry room.

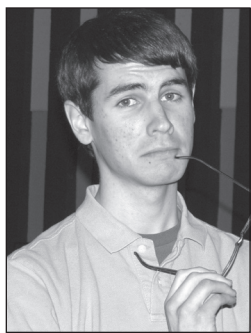
Catholic Culture Club is open to all students and there is no pressure to attend every week.

"Catholic Culture presents an awesome opportunity to learn all about the faith," said Charlotte Michels, a junior involved with the group. "We have learned about everything from miraculous medals to exorcisms to the Shroud of Turin."

Students should honor Mary during May

Joe Scholten
Guest Columnist

Soon the month of May will be upon us. This means several things. In my family, May will bring my little sister's birthday. For the senior class, May 23 is our long-awaited graduation date.



For Catholics, May means Mary.

Within the Church, May has traditionally been a month dedicated to the mother of Our Lord. In preparation for this coming month of Our Lady, I'd like to advise you, my beloved readership, to try something counter-cultural: pray the Rosary.

It is true—this proposition seems boring to some, monumental to others, and simply stupid to many. After all, what can we possibly gain from repeating the same worn-out phrases over and over again?

The truth is, there is quite a lot we can gain. But first, a clarification is in order. It is stupid to monotonously repeat the same thing over and over again with no underlying mental or spiritual activity. That, however, is not at all what the Rosary is supposed to be about.

The Rosary falls into the category of prayer known as meditation. Meditation basically consists of taking something from scripture or the lives of the saints and thinking about it. We ponder a story or verse and figure out God's message and how it applies to our lives. In praying the Rosary, we meditate on twenty mysteries from the lives of Jesus Christ and His Blessed Mother. With patience, this meditation has the power to tell us a little more about Who God is and who we are meant to be.

The real "meat" of the Rosary lies not in the words of the Hail Marys but in the Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, and Glorious mysteries that we are to ponder. The repeated prayers and the Rosary beads merely serve to put our

See Mary page 5

Sister Kathryn continues unique legacy of service

Christina Engeman
Maegen Lipetzky

Sister Kathryn Easley was born and raised in Lincoln, Nebraska. While living there, she attended Pius X High School.

"There are so many similarities between Pius X and O'Gorman," said Easley.

While growing up, the second oldest of seven siblings, Easley rarely considered the religious life.

"The thought would bubble up in my mind once in a while, but I really did not want to join a convent. I was having far too much fun," said Easley.

During college, a retreat director suggested that she join the convent her junior year. However, Easley did not think the religious life was for her. So, she graduated from college and taught fourth grade for a year at Holy Family School in Lincoln, Nebraska.

"Finally, I gave in and thought I would give it a try, and surely they would tell me to leave," said Easley.

Because she was never asked to leave, she kept living the life. Through prayer and discernment, she discovered that the religious life was the right path for her and that she was doing what God called her to do.

"No bolts of lightning for me, a gradual letting go of what I thought I wanted and listening to what God was calling me to do," said Easley.

Easley is a Benedictine Sister from the Yankton, South Dakota Sacred Heart Monastery. The motherhouse is located on "the hill" in Yankton.

"You can see the steeple of our chapel from afar and it will lead you home," said Easley.

Before coming to O'Gorman, Easley was elected to be Prioress, Reverend Mother, of her community in Yankton. She happily served her community for eight years and when she could no longer be re-elected, she went to Dr. Lorang. She asked him if she could work for the Sioux Falls Catholic Schools.



CHRISTINA ENGEMAN / KNIGHT SCROLL

Sr. Kathryn is head of the theology department.

Easley was principal at Christ the King for ten years and also at the Blessed Sacrament School in Lincoln, Nebraska, for two years.

"I did not want to be a principal any longer, so he offered me this ministry, and I have been working here ever since," said Easley.

Now Easley lives at Christ the King Convent, which is attached to Christ the King

School. There she lives with two other sisters, Sister Erin, who is an attorney for an agency that serves the poor, and Sister Margretta, who is the Pastoral Minister at St. Mary.

Easley's job at O'Gorman includes teaching Christian Service, a senior elective, and she is also the chair of the theology department.

Lunch Continued from page 1

a muffin, milk and chips ran only \$1.75.

A snack of one entrée and milk ran one student \$1.65. Accounting for the thirty-five cent price of milk, that means this student ended up paying \$1.30 just for three golden chicken nuggets.

"One day we asked how much each of our lunches cost," said senior Cole Heisey. "I could not figure out a pattern. People that bought twice as much food were paying significantly less. Even some things I thought were free with a meal, like milk, ended up costing extra."

Beyond the fluctuating cost

and lack of information, there is another phase of lunch that catches some off guard.

"I buy food from the a la Carte all the time," said Hilmoe.

Indeed, the a la Carte line serves hundreds of students every week even as its prices remain high.

Thanks to the efforts of Student Council, students already have a handy list of prices for some of the products. Water, for example, (the only item allowed during the rest of the school day) is at the common market price of a dollar. Senior Trevor Watson explained another instance.

"The bagels at Hy-Vee are less expensive than the ones here," said Watson.

The simple fact is that O'Gorman is not a business, but a school. If water or bagels only cost the school 20 cents, then that is what they should cost

Expensive seconds and fluctuating cost would not be as big of problem except that students really do not have other options.

Bringing lunches from home is rather socially ostracized. Obviously the larger lunches are popular, usually more so than the "A" line, and that is why the unpredictable prices are unfair.

Fortunately Dagostaro has a solution.

According to her, "We do allow students to self serve the bread, peanut butter, fruit and

vegetables."

This means if students do not get enough from the federally guideline and standard priced "A" line, they can get most of the healthier foods for free.

This may not go far enough, though. Consistency and more information are needed to solve the erratic prices. Student Council efforts are a good start, but students really need to know how much they are paying. Not having the prices on hand is misleading and should not be tolerated.

Even the simple action of being told how much their meal just cost them could lead many students to having fuller wallets and stomachs even as their minds drift elsewhere.

Rocket Team takes flight to qualifiers in TARC nationals

Becky Jarding
Activity Co-Editor

The Rocket Team hopes to blast its way into this year’s national competition: the Team America Rocketry Challenge. To do so, the team will have to compete against 750 teams to qualify as one of the top 100 teams in the nation.

O’Gorman’s rocket team, which has been in existence for the past seven years, is comprised of Jonathan Oliver, Mark Anderson, DongYun Shin, Joshua McQuade, Peter Petrasko, Aaron Culey, Matthew Dondelinger, and Caleb Jamison. According to rocket team coach Ms. Jane Schnell, the team has yet to make a qualifying flight.

To qualify, teams must attempt to get as close as possible to making their rocket reach 750 feet and land over a time period of 45 seconds. One penalty point is added for each foot higher or lower than the required height, and one point is also added for each second off from the required time, making zero a perfect score.

However, individuals must do more than just meet height and time requirements to qualify for nationals. The team also has to have the egg placed in its rocket land safely, without cracking, via

parachute.

“The kids design the rocket, then build it, and test fly it to adjust its weight, center of mass, and to get close to the requirements,” said Schnell.

Nationals take place from May 15 to 17 at Great Meadow, The Plains, Va. The competition begins with a team meeting on May 15.

Last year, the Rocket Team had its first experience at nationals, where they placed 68th in the country out of 100 teams.

So far, according to McQuade, the team’s captain, the Rocket Team is doing “pretty well” in its attempts to achieve a qualifying flight.

“We’ve had a couple of things go wrong, like broken fins, but we’ve fixed that and are hoping to get a good launch this Sunday [March 29],” said McQuade

For the team that wins nationals, all the time and effort put into their rocket will be valuable in the end.

“Members of the winning team share scholarship money and are invited to participate in the international air show in Paris, France,” said Schnell. “The team is sponsored to go—all expenses paid—and fly against the European champion in Paris.”

Art students embrace opportunity of expression

Domenica Gilbert
Activity Co-Editor

Some students only take a class to fill a requirement, but this does not seem to be the case with the school’s art program.

“Art has always been a part of my family,” said junior Conner McMahan. “We have always felt art is a pretty great thing.”

While working on his pottery bowl, McMahan showed his great interest in art with his focus and consideration for detail.

Also, students have always found they get many benefits from taking an art course.

“Pottery is a great way to express myself,” said senior Molly Viger. “I do not think at all of the stressful things going on in my life.”

The only problem students have ever encountered concerning the art program is not having an opportunity to take it.

“I have always wanted to take pottery, but scheduling was pretty challenging,” said senior Brian Muldoon, a four-year art student.

Muldoon is one of two students in Drawing and Painting IV. He paints in his spare time and



DOMENICA GILBERT / KNIGHT SCROLL

Giannina Parra works on an art project in Mr. Siska’s class.

loves the chance to get to do something he loves during school hours.

“I have had drawing and painting as my first period class all four years,” said Muldoon, one of two students in Drawing and Painting IV. “It is the best way to start off the day.”

In contrast, senior Nolan Cleary said it was the best way to end class, taking pottery during eighth period. It seems that no matter what time of day it is, students always enjoy having a stress-free break in the day.

Also, students in art teacher

Mr. Gary Siska’s class develop their skills to become talented artists. Some students’ talents and abilities even shine through in a broader scope of student artists.

Currently, there are five O’Gorman students that have artwork at the Horse Barn. They are Brody Allen, Myra Bolender, Asia Collett, Shanleigh LeTexier, and Brian Muldoon.

“There is also a regional High School Art Show,” said Siska. “There must be over 20 schools that have artwork in the show.”

Musical shows dangers and comedy of co-worker romance

Abby Meyers
Staff Writer

The spring musical is off to a running start with many talented cast members. *The Pajama Game* is being performed this May, and so far, it is a real success.

The school has never performed *The Pajama Game* but is ready to take on the challenge.

“We have an enormous amount of talent—the seniors are great role models and full of talent. There is a lot of new talent as well,” said Ms. Teresa Fester, who has been directing the musical for twelve years.

This year’s musical is a comedy about the dangers of a workplace romance. While the conditions at the Pajama Factory are not at their peak, sparks fly between Sid Sorokin and Babe Williams, leader of the union grievance committee. Their relationship comes to an end when the workers at the pajama factory strike for a pay increase, setting off a conflict between management and labor and also a battle of the sexes. Teresa Johnson, who has been performing the

musical since her sophomore year, is playing Anne, a worker in the factory.

“My favorite scene is Hernando’s Hideaway because it is spicy and takes place in a nightclub,” said Johnson.

Along with success comes a little work, and the cast of the musical has a lot to say about hard work.

“It has been a lot of work so far because of the day-long practices and lengthy choir night,” says Johnson.

The Pajama Game also consists of more group numbers compared to past musicals, which also requires more work rehearsing. This year’s cast is also led by a group of seniors, most of whom have been involved with the musical for two years or more.

According to Johnson, “This year will be much better than last year’s because there are so many strong seniors.”

The Pajama Game, which is based on the novel written by George Abbott and Richard Bissell, also has many different costumes.

“It is fun to pick out the costumes for the leads because



KNIGHT SCROLL

Students rehearse for the spring musical *Pajama Game*.

they actually wear cute clothes this year,” said Liz Kappenman, who has been a costumer for the musical for two years.

The play is from the Sixties so the costumes are full of color and detail. Kappenman looks forward to seeing the finished product of her costumes in the final production of the play.

The spring musical, which attracts many fans every year, is

looking to be a hit this year. There is a lot of talent, both young and old, that will contribute to this year’s production, and students are all looking forward to performing the show.

“I’m looking forward to performing the show because I am a senior, and it is my last show,” says Johnson, who thinks that this year’s performance will be a great way to end her high school career.

Everyone is working hard to make sure this year’s production is strong and will be remembered by those who come and see it. The cast has been putting in a lot of hard work and are hoping for success. This year’s musical consists of a lot of talent, and is led by a cast of experiences seniors. The finished product is looking very successful and is hoping to be a big hit.

Concert Choir takes trip to Big Easy

Maria Barnett
Staff Writer

As the Concert Choir explores New Orleans, it will spread values students have known most of their lives.

Students from the school have had an opportunity to help in many service projects around the area.

As the Concert Choir travels to New Orleans, it will learn more about other cultures in the United States and about the Gulf Coast itself.

“I think we have to be worldly,” said Principal Mr. Kyle Groos. “Students need to understand there are more issues impacting others throughout the country.”

The Concert Choir hopes to serve people who continue to clean up the mess left by Hurricane Katrina about three-and-a-half years ago.

“I want the choir to understand the depth of the tragedy,” said Choir Director Mrs. Cathy Britton. “[The students] need to have a sense of compassion and give their help.”

The choir will spend Friday afternoon cleaning up the Ninth Ward in New Orleans.

This area was hit particularly

hard by the storm.

Groos said that this will be a nice way for students to recognize the tragedy and learn what social justice truly means.

The Concert Choir will not just be doing service projects, though.

Students will be performing an a cappella show Thursday and Sunday evening.

Thursday’s show is called “Evensong.”

It will be performed at Trinity Episcopal Church and will include many spirituals.

Some of the choir’s selections include “Walk Together Children,” “My Soul’s Been Anchored in the Lord”—both by Moses Hogan—and the Ukrainian “Hallelujah.”

Britton tried to have a concert at a Catholic Church, but Trinity Episcopal was the only location available.

The choir also gets the opportunity to perform the pre-game show to an NBA game between the Utah Jazz and New Orleans Hornets.

“This is really great for the variety of students in Concert Choir,” said Concert Choir President Rachael Andersen. “And there is a lot of anticipation because none of us know what to expect.”

Students are also excited because they have had to earn their way toward the \$850.00 trip.

Capers is a huge even for students in Concert Choir; it usually brings in money for students because of the silent auction.

The good thing about the silent auction is that students get to decide what goes into the baskets, and the money goes to each student’s basket.

“My mom and I made scarves and sold them at Capers and to friends,” said Andersen. “I even used all of my Christmas money for the trip, too.”

The trip is even more memorable because only juniors and seniors are in the choir.

Andersen said that this gives the group a good chance to bond and get to know each other even better.

When the band and choir go on a trip every two years, there are certain criteria involved.

Groos said that groups have to have value, an intent and purpose to gain experience, service and cultural awareness.

The Concert Choir will experience new things while understanding the value of service and displaying its talents to others.

Show choir ends season

Cameron Johnson
Staff Writer

Although the show choir’s season is coming to an end, they hope to finish it on a high note. “We’re still growing,” said Ovation Coach Cathy Britton. And that they are.

“It was exciting and it’s where we want to be every year,” said Britton when asked about making the finals for the first time in our school’s history.

Ovation recently closed their season on a remarkable performance in Mitchell. They reached finals for the second time this year, placing fourth out of six teams. “It was by far the best of the year,” said Ovation performer Jack Billion. “We all had so much energy after our finals performance that we went out into the parking lot and danced our whole closer again.”

For all of the seniors, it was an outstanding memory. “This was their last show ever and they wanted it to be a good one. Well they definitely got what they wanted,” said Billion. Other great performances include receiving second place at Vermillion.

Being in show choir has taught many important lessons to these students. “I feel like we all learned a lot about ourselves in that one

performance, and a lot about life, because that was by far the best performance we have ever had,” said Steve Schaeffer. “It also taught us that you will never know your full potential until you go out there and find out for yourself.”

The show choir is led under the direction of Mrs. Cathy Britton. Britton, who has been directing show choir for a total of 18 years, always seems to do well in competitions. She ended the season right where she wanted by reach her goal of breaking the top three spots.

Britton spent 11 years at Washington High School before coming to O’Gorman. O’Gorman’s show choir program was only established for two years when she first directed the program.

She has also given them plenty of inspiration. “We all love to sing and dance of course, but the feeling you get after we come off the stage is unlike anything we have felt before,” said Billion.

The show choir, which has been practicing since February 21st, can’t take all the blame for their success. The band has been practicing since late November-early December. “Our band put a lot of work into show choir too,” said KnightLights performer Kelly Stephens, “Without them we would sound lame.”

Mary
Continued from page 3

voices and our bodies into a prayerful pattern that focuses our mind on the mystery at hand. Through the Rosary, we can come to a deeper solidarity with Christ’s loneliness in the Garden of Gethsemane or a closer imitation of Mary’s humility at the visit of Gabriel.

This simple form of prayer can have tremendous consequences, both in our lives and in the lives of those for whom we pray. True, it takes some getting used to, but anything good requires a

little work. In addition, the burden is eased by The Blessed Virgin, who helps everyone who sincerely approaches her through the Rosary she has given us.

My question about praying the Rosary is the same one Sean Connery asked about wearing socks inside out in *Finding Forrester*. “What have you got to lose?”

With the Rosary, we have nothing but sin to lose and an amazing mother’s help to gain.

(Note: For good step-by-step guides on meditating on the Rosary, I suggest ewtn.org or theholynosary.org.)

Upcoming Events

- April 2-6 - Concert Choir to New Orleans
- April 9 - Awareness Day
- April 17-18 - Senior Honor Choir Auditions at WHS
- April 23-25 - Musical: “Pajama Game”
- May 1-2 - All State Jazz Band in Aberdeen





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SUBMITTED PHOTO

Senior Jameson Goetz (left) and Sophomore Brad Entwistle (right) lead the tennis team this year.

Tennis players hit the court

Domenica Gilbert
Activity Co-Editor

After several second-place finishes at the state tournament in the past few years, the boys tennis team is eager to shoot for a first place season. With many skilled returning players, this goal does not seem out of reach for the Knights.

“Once you win it, second place does not quite match up,” said Don Barnes, O’Gorman coach for 22 years. “We want the top prize in 2009, and it is definitely in our reach.”

However, it will not be an easy feat to accomplish. The competition is as tough as ever

with talented teams throughout the state.

“I am more impressed with the individual players throughout the state, but I think we are deeper than anybody,” said Barnes. “But that does not necessarily equate to a state title since the flights are point weighted.”

Some of the challenging schools the team will be up against include Rapid City Stevens, which has the two top-ranked players in the state, and Sioux Falls Lincoln, which has one of the deepest teams in the state. Other teams contenders include Sioux Falls Roosevelt and Aberdeen Central.

After finishing second at the State Tournament each of the

past three years, the Knights are feeling confident that this may be their year.

“We definitely felt disappointed with our finish last year,” said junior Kevin Rance. “With six returning varsity players this year, we feel like we have as good of a shot as anyone.”

The team’s schedule will be just as demanding as it has been in past years. The season will consist of over twenty duals and two tournaments all within eight weeks.

Some highlights for the season are the Dakota Cup on May 16 against Lincoln, and the State Tournament, which takes place in Sioux Falls on May 23.

Girls basketball finishes one win short of state

Patrick W. Linsenmeyer
Design Editor

Even for Girls Basketball 13 is a very unlucky number. One win short of making state, the O’Gorman Lady knights ended the season with a 13-10 record, going 8-4 in the GDC.

This bad luck was most apparent when O’Gorman had to face both Watertown and Brandon Valley, the two teams that made the championship.

“We also had to battle through a lot of injuries this year which made it very difficult,” said senior Jenna Stroup. The hardest injury befell Junior Abby Meyers.

“I tore my ACL and meniscus in our game against Brandon Valley and had to get surgery,” said Abby, “I missed the last six games which was really a bummer especially because it was tournament time.”

Yet, hopes are high for next season. “We will miss our two

seniors (Emily Schulte & Jenna Stroup),” Head Coach Kent Kolsrud said. “But we are excited about our prospects for next year.”

With a more predominantly soon-to-be-senior team they are looking forward to state in 2010.

The only two seniors, Stroup and Schulte, still enjoyed their last year together as team mates.

“I think I will miss everything about high school basketball,” said Schulte. “We were the oldest and that made us leaders... it made this year tough at times, but always fun.” This closeness and leadership undoubtedly helped carry the team to their winning season.

Even if luck wasn’t on their side, O’Gorman will never have another Girls Basketball team exactly like this one.

“This group of girls worked hard all season and strived to be their best. We had good leadership, a strong work ethic, and played

Power lifters take home state and school records

Matt Entringer
Sports Co-Editor

In the last month, the Knights’ power lifting team has traveled over 2400 miles to arrive in the record books. The Knights began their journey with their fourth consecutive state title. The Knights edged out Madison in a 54 to 42 victory on Feb. 28.

“A couple of us have been groomed since we were freshmen to be just power lifters,” said Nolan Cleary, the state champion at 148 lbs. “I think that is why were so successful, because we take it so seriously. We also have a lot of senior leadership. I mean, most of the team is made up of seniors, and most of the place winners are seniors. It is a pretty tough senior class to beat.”

The Knights showed little weakness in any weight class this year. They had a state high of 15 lifters placing in this year’s state meet, including five first place finishers and three second place finishers.

“We had the biggest team bond this year that we have had for a long time,” said Cleary. “We are all pretty good friends, so we can stick together and push each other.”

Along with the state placers, the Knights had another individual recognition bestowed upon their team. Cleary was named the all around lifter for the state meet.

“I really was not even thinking about getting the award,” said Cleary. “I was just putting all of my focus into beating this guy who beat me last year. When I got it, though,

I was just like, staying here until six every night finally paid off.”

The Knights broke various school and state records on the way to their fourth consecutive state title. Nolan Cleary broke three state records for his weight class, including bench, dead lift, and total weight. Peter Prostrollo also added to a record-shattering performance for the Knights by setting the state record for dead lift in the 181 lb. weight class.

With one of longest consecutive title run for any sport in O’Gorman history, the Knights power lifting team has transformed itself from a winter activity into a legitimate school sport. As of now, the Knights have a strangle hold on the state’s power lifting crown, and Whiting has a good idea why.

“When I first took over, it was something that athletes from other sports did because they did not play basketball or wrestle,” said Whiting. “It was something to stay busy and get strong for sports like football. Now, that has changed where I have more kids who are in it because they are power lifters. That changes the dynamic of our season.”

A good example of students who are authentic power lifters are the three seniors traveling to Killeen, Texas, for the national power lifting tournament.

Nolan Cleary, Peter Prostrollo, and Casey Raaen will be competing in Killeen, April 3-5 for the chance to earn the title of best power lifter in the country for their weight class.

“Hopefully the leadership from this year’s



MATT ENTRINGER / KNIGHT SCROLL

(Back to front, left to right) Casey Raaen, Peter Prostrollo, Sung Young Kim, Nolan Cleary, Dan Oswald and Brett Priebe celebrate the power lifting state championship.

senior class will leave us covered with the goodies left in it for next year,” said Whiting. “We still have strong lifters who will be with us next year and can definitely lead this team. It’s kind of the tale of every senior to say

good luck next year; you guys are going to be terrible without us. But it always seems like we find strong lifters to fill those spots.”



KNIGHT SCROLL

Knights defeat Pierre at state, finish fourth

Adam Wilka
Entertainment Co-Editor

The Knights Boy’s Basketball team ended the regular season with an admirable win-loss record of 19-4.

“We got a lot done this season; it was a good run,” said senior Will Powell. “I’m disappointed with how we placed in State, but it was still a great time.”

The Knights placed fourth in the State AA Boy’s Basketball tournament, having beaten Pierre in the first game with Powell pulling off some last second heroics to break a tie and end the game 68-66.

The Knights were set up for a semifinal game against Huron on Friday night.

Huron defeated the Knights 51-48 in the semifinal game. In the third and fourth place game, Watertown defeated O’Gorman

62-61, leaving the Knights with fourth place in the tournament.

Brent Clark, also a senior on the team, thinks of the good times he had in his last season playing for the Knights.

“Obviously we wish we could have won it all, and I know our team is good enough,” said Clark, “Still, we had a good season and I’m glad I got to play with these guys one last time. It’s a real close group and I’m glad I was a part of it.”

“We got a lot done this season; it was a good run. I’m disappointed with how we placed in State, but it was still a great time.”

- Will Powell



DOMENICA GILBERT / KNIGHT SCROLL

Top, left to right: Michael Hardie, Sterling Nielsen, Chris Ridl, Michael Fettig, Will Powell, Brent Clark, Matt Whitesel, Alex Robey, Steven Payne, Tom Wilka, Ryan Graber, Sam Wallin, Tyler Soldatke, Danny Hughes.

Bottom: The O’Gorman student section cheers on the boys basketball team at the state tournament.

While one generation is moving on, another has already gotten ready to step into their shoes. One such crucial player is sophomore Sterling Nielsen.

“I had a lot of fun this season, up until the end – wish we could have done better in state,” says Nielsen. “But I really learned a lot too; Coach Krier instilled in us

that we need to compete.

“I’m looking forward to next year though; hopefully we can take what we learned from the older guys and use it to go all the way. Next year, I think we can end the season with a bang.”

Lincoln defeated Huron in the championship game to cap its perfect season.

Girls golf prepare for spring season

Maggie Lawler
Staff Writer

The girls golf team is starting off its season with exactly what it wants in mind.

“We set three goals for our team every year, and we work very hard to achieve them” said Coach Rod Garrison. “We hope to be City Champs, Conference Champions and to place in the top three teams at state.”

There are presently 22 girls on the girls golf team. Of these girls, eight have returned from last year including seniors Kara Busch, Bridgid Hurley and Laura Turgeon, juniors Molly Donohue, Whitney Wheeler and Megan Wheeler, sophomore Nadia Baka, and freshman Michaela Kouri.

“We only lost one key player from last year,” said Busch. “Hopefully, our returning talent can come together and do well at State.”

The team has four dual matches, five city meets, seven invite tournaments, the GDC Conference tournament and the State Tournament. The season officially begins on March 27 in Hartford against West Central. However, this isn’t the team that O’Gorman is rivaling.

“We really want to try and pull it together this year against Brookings,” said Whitney Wheeler, “they’ve got some mean competition.”

“Our team is a seasoned team and I look for them to play very well during the year,” said Garrison. “There are some other teams that will play very well during the season and we have to stay focused and remember our goals.”

New baseball coach sets goals for team

J.R. Stassi
Staff Writer

O’Gorman baseball hopes a new coach is just what they need. Coach John Ratzloff is joining the Knights in their new season after the previous head Coach Joe Rutten stepped down.

Last year Ratzloff was an assistant coach at Washington. Ratzloff has always been involved with O’Gorman High School in many ways because of his two children in the Sioux Falls Catholic Schools System. He has also worked with some of the O’Gorman High School athletes in baseball clinics or over the summer.

“I had a chance to see O’Gorman High School baseball in action from the other side of the field” said Ratzloff.

Of course Ratzloff cannot possibly coach all 34 athletes ranging in grades from 9th to 11th grade in the baseball program, so Ratzloff has enlisted a supporting coaching staff including another new member, Ron Bartels who is the freshmen and sophomore coach. And returning this year is a seasoned veteran to lead the junior varsity team, Alex Sommers.

The Knights had a well rounded team last year, but he feels that baseball is a game of defense won by good pitching and good fundamentals, which was really one of the

Knights downfalls in previous seasons.

“The change of coaches has really got the team pumped,” said sophomore Zach Cole. Ratzloff wanted the change to be more with philosophy and less with actual physical capability. He wants to get to know the team and learn where they would play best.

Of course every new coach needs goals. Ratzloff’s number one goal would be that he wants to personally get to know every person on his team on and off the diamond and of course to succeed.

Now the team’s goals differ. The team wants to improve on last season record by really buckling down and focusing at

practice, “because you practice like you play,” said Cole.

The Knights fell short of the state tournament last year, but they are ambitious about this season. The Knights have a lot of returning talent in their seniors and a great supporting cast, so it looks like the state tournament is almost in reach but it will depend how the season goes.

As the Knights season rapidly approaches there is nothing that Ratzloff can do except buckle down and hope that the attitude he has taken towards the team, the changes he has made on and off the baseball diamond will pay off.

Van Engen veraciously ventures into variegated past

Tanya Kapoor
Jameson Goetz

Through his crisp, soothing voice and signature phrases, Mr. Jason A. Van Engen has carved a reputation as a witty but stern teacher. Less known, though, are his childhood years on a farm near Alcester, South Dakota.

"When I was young, I actually wanted to follow in the footsteps of my dad and become a farmer," said Van Engen. "Although I loved helping him out on the farm, I realized that farming was not the best career path for me."

Van Engen attended Alcester-Hudson High School. There, he developed a passion for school and extracurricular activities.

"[In high school,] I was involved in sports of the mind like quiz bowl and oral interp," said Van Engen. "In school, I loved everything. I enjoyed my English classes, and I enjoyed my math classes. I liked solving problems, which probably explains why I like to do sentence diagramming with my freshmen."

Van Engen entered Augustana College as a religion major but quickly changed his major to English and secondary education.

"In college, I discovered that I had a passion for teaching," said Van

Engen. "I liked the environment, and I liked being around other teachers and students."

Though he developed a passion for teaching while he was in college, Van Engen acquired an enthusiasm for English while he was in high school. He credits his high school English teachers Mrs. Jane Walsh and Mrs. LeeAnn Haisch for his love of the English language.

"[Van Engen] was destined to be an English teacher—even as a junior high student he had the creativity, the vocabulary, the grammatical understanding, the dramatic edge and the quirky sense of humor it takes to be an English teacher," said Haisch, now the Alcester-Hudson Junior High and High School Principal. "He was such a good student that I was never sure I was challenging him enough."

In college, Van Engen was the Variety Editor for *The Mirror*, Augustana's collegiate newspaper. He taught his first lesson as a college sophomore and completed his practicum—classroom observation—at Axtell Park Middle School.

"I actually gave out my first detention as a student-teacher," said Van Engen. "Some boys were messing around with a computer, and I said, 'Gentlemen, that's a



MELISSA RUSHING / KNIGHT SCROLL

Mr. Van Engen entertains questions during his English I class.

detention.' That was how that phrase was coined."

Although Van Engen often uses the expression "that's a detention," he rarely heard his teachers use a similar expression when they spoke to him.

"Jason always followed the rules to my knowledge," said Haisch. "I am sure there are stories, however."

Two years ago, Van Engen found

himself browsing the Associated School Boards' Web site, looking for a teaching job. On the Web site, he stumbled upon a posting for an English and journalism teacher at O'Gorman High School. He was hired in March 2007.

"As a first-year teacher, you establish yourself and spend hours planning the curriculum. In the second

year, you build on what you have and try to perfect your lessons. You spend time refining the craft," said Van Engen. "Students are also frustrated because I have high expectations, but I realize that I have to prepare them for what lies ahead in their high school English careers."

See Van Engen page 10

I Love You, Man gets many laughs to compliment strong review

Matt Entringer
Sports Co-Editor

Paul Rudd has no friends. This does not sound like an idea that would amuse an audience for two hours and that is partly true. It would amuse an audience for a lot longer. *I Love You, Man* is the best comedy put into theaters since *Role Models*, another Paul Rudd side splitter (coincidence, I think not). *I Love You, Man* is not the smartest comedy ever, and sure it goes for a cheap laugh once in a while, but it is executed to near perfection.

I Love You, Man is about a real estate agent named Peter Klaven who gets engaged to his girlfriend but realizes that he does not have any male friends to be his best man. Peter then sets out to find a man suitable to fill that void in his life. After his family sets him up with some less than suitable applicants, Peter finally meets the man of his dreams. Peter befriends Sydney Fife, a somewhat charming man with just a hint of abnormality. The two instantly become friends. Peter seems to have an answer to his best man problems until his friendship starts to interfere with the other qualification for



PRESS PHOTO

I Love You Man stars Jason Segel and Paul Rudd.

a wedding, his bride. Peter's newfound friendship with Sydney leaves his bride to be feeling more than a little concerned. Peter is put in the age-old situation of choosing his friend or the girl of his dreams.

Paul Rudd plays the kind-hearted but mostly inept Peter Klaven. Rudd, famous for his roles in *The 40 Year Old Virgin*, and *Knocked Up*, does a good job at portraying one of the most awkward characters to be on the

big screen in a long time. From foolish attempts at nicknames to down right terrible impersonations of everyone from James Bond to Jamaican musicians, Rudd makes sure no stone of oafishness is left unturned. Jason Segel is hilarious as the opinionated man befriended by Rudd. Segel is one the great up and coming comedians with a resume that includes *How I Met Your Mother* as well as *Knocked Up*

See Movie page 10

Sioux Falls gets a taste...of India

Maggie Lawler
Jordan Heisler

Whoever said that Sioux Falls lacks in the culture department just did not know where to look. Hidden among the various sports bars and hotels that surround the arena lies an authentic taste of Indian culture.

A Taste of India is a quiet secluded restaurant that is located on West Russell Street across from the Ramada Inn.

Although this restaurant is nothing special in appearance, A Taste of India is growing in popularity. Several students at O'Gorman recommended it to us. So we decided to have a taste...of India.

We decided to go for lunch, and we were surprised to see that the restaurant was fairly busy. At first, we were a little hesitant when we smelled the unfamiliar smell. We were seated immediately.

The menu was filled with delicious entrees. We ordered two

meals to share between the two of us. Heisler ordered the chicken curry.

This dish had a great blend of spicy and savory flavors. Lawler's dish was the chicken vindaloo. This was a very hot and spicy chicken dish with a tomato sauce. They were both served with an endless portion of rice.

Once we had eaten our fill, which was easily done because of the large portion size, we decided to order a little dessert. Since the lunch was relatively inexpensive, we figured we would make up for it in desserts.

We decided to go with the Mango Lassi. This was a dessert drink that consisted of yogurt and mango juice topped with whipped cream. This was absolutely delicious. Unfortunately, our portions were split in half because we foolishly decided to share.

The meal was wonderful. Overall we were very satisfied with this restaurant and would definitely return sometime.

Metalcore band plans summer tour

Christian group, which involves members from three Sioux Falls high schools, writes new material, plans Midwest summer shows

Zach Dresch
Design Editor

During the fall and winter, local music suffered a slump, and now that spring is here, it is set to make a big comeback.

Destroy.Embrace. is a Christian metalcore band that consists of O'Gorman senior John Miller, Washington seniors Travis Hartle, Drew Heisel and Matt Lyon, and Roosevelt junior Derrick Ettel.

The band has been together since October 30, 2008.

"We started playing mainly because we all like what we do," said singer Travis Hartle.

The band is currently in the process of writing new material, which will lead them into a tour this summer. It has songs written about *Lord of the Rings* and The Mighty Boosh character Old Gregg.

The band's main influences include bands such as August Burns Red and Parkway Drive.

So far, in the past month, the group has performed and opened for such bands as Life's Breath and has played a DSU Battle of the Bands show on March 20.

"The crowd generally likes watching us," said Hartle. "We will occasionally get one guy up front

just standing and watching us."

Destroy.Embrace. also had a show on March 27 at the Cathedral Underground opening for For All Those Sleeping.

"I just love the adrenaline and excitement when I'm performing," said guitarist Drew Heisel.

The band has also opened for Hands, another Christian metal band, on March 12.

"We usually practice individually before each show," said guitarist Matt Lyon. "We are very uber-energetic and excited during each show."

When it comes to playing, the band has no complaints.

"The only negative about playing is putting up with our guitarist, Matt," said Hartle.

In May, Destroy.Embrace. plans to perform at Red Rooster for the reunion show of AmberAllAlone, O'Gorman senior John Miller's previous band.

Miller will resume playing for AmberAllAlone in addition to his bass duties in Destroy.Embrace.

"Both bands have their own uniqueness," said Miller. "Destroy.Embrace. is something new and fresh, while Amber is something that I have loved to do for the three years we have been playing."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Destroy.Embrace. performs on December 28, 2008.

As for the future, anything is open for the band.

"We plan to tour together, which two shows a night will be insane," said Miller.

"I love everyone in both bands, all the songs; neither one I like more than the other," said Miller.

Destroy.Embrace.

~The band lineup consists of Travis Hartle on vocals, Drew Heisel and Matt Lyon on guitar, John Miller on bass, and Derrick Ettel on drums.

~The band has performed throughout South Dakota.

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Zach Dresch
Design Editor

In - and- Out

Demetri Martin	Carlos Mencia
Conan O'Brian	Jay Leno
Taylor Swift	Miley Cyrus
Talented Artists	Jonas Brothers
Khakis	Spandex
(Any Band That's Not Limp Bizkit)	Limp Bizkit

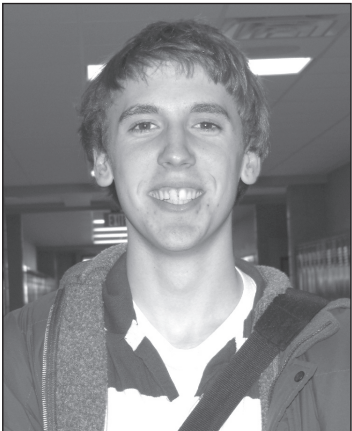
Photo Survey

Which teacher would you choose for president? Why?



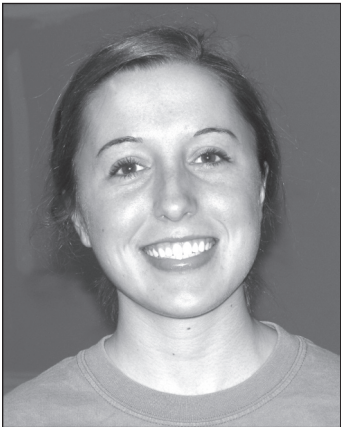
Shannon Mastel

"Mrs. Reed because her extra credit policy ensures everyone is rewarded for a job well done."



Pat Brende

"Ms. Grinde because she can do simple math problems. Like if you have zero dollars, don't spend a billion."



Erin Hoffman

"Mrs. Kruse, because she's passionate about what she believes in."



Will Penisten

"If Chuck Norris was a teacher..."

Students know if you can't beat the dress code, make it your own

Becky Jarding
Christina Engeman

In the same way that some people say "there's no use crying over spilled milk," the phrase can also be said of O'Gorman's dress code. No matter how much complaining is done by the student body, at least some sort of dress code is here to stay.

Instead of constantly complaining about having to wear a uniform, students might as well embrace our uniform by revamping it.

As wisely put by Vice Principal Mrs. Joan Mahoney, "Khakis have been around forever."

If there is going to be a strict dress code, we might as well wear uniforms. As unattractive as uniforms may sound, the right colors and patterns could make all the difference.

Think *Gossip Girl* or *Gilmore Girls*. Those uniforms are sophisticated and classy while still allowing students to maintain individuality through accessorizing.

According to the student handbook, our current dress code was established with the goals of "the eliminations of dress and fashion, the idea that a dress code

demonstrates a visible sign of self-respect, and the minimization of distractions, which can get in the way of learning."

For the most part our current dress code does this. However, our uniforms sometimes end up looking sloppy. Prep-school type uniforms would look much more polished.

Also, Mahoney said that another intention of the dress code is to "try to prepare students for dress in the professional world." Currently, our dress code doesn't do a very good job of accomplishing this.

Yet, every year there seems to be some new fad that is "illegal" and students insist to continue wearing the item and making the uniform look sloppy or less professional.

For example, this year, boots have been a major fashion trend. At first, only a few students were wearing them, but before long, practically every girl in the student body had a pair. While the boots may be comfortable and warm, they don't necessarily go with the intention of dressing us for the professional world.

Also our dress code has some gray areas. Students are sometimes uncertain about what

shoes are acceptable or if they can wear a long sleeved t-shirt over a polo. With a uniform, there wouldn't be any of these gray areas because there would be limited options. Not to mention that getting dressed in the morning would be a much easier task for everyone.

Uniforms tend to carry a bad reputation with them due to elementary school days. The idea of uniforms can bring back traumatizing memories for some.

The uniforms we envision for high school wouldn't be the good old navy pants and white polos. Students would be able to choose between several pant colors, a white polo or button up shirt, a navy sweater or blazer, a skirt for girls and an optional tie for both genders.

Now some may compare that to a prison jumpsuit, but really, it would be a positive change. Girls could sleep an extra ten to twenty minutes instead of trying to match tank tops with polos and choose the perfect accessories. Ladies could still spice up the uniform with jewelry and hairstyles that coincide with the handbook.

Van Engen
Continued from page 8

Besides his dedication as a teacher, Van Engen is renowned for his taste in clothing. He is one of the few teachers who wears ties to school, and all students seem to appreciate his stylish dress clothes.

"What I like about Mr. Van Engen is [that] he has never worn the same outfit in the entire year," said freshman Ali Rausch.

During dress down days, he gets rid of the dress clothes and often wears Cowboys jerseys. Cowboys' banners adorn his

classroom. Still, he insists that he does not have a Cowboys obsession.

"I would call myself an avid fan," said Van Engen. Everyone used to love the Cowboys. Now everyone hates them. I am one of the last diehard fans left. Everyone else has jumped ship."

In addition to Cowboys' banners, several prized movie posters decorate Van Engen's room. Van Engen is a self-proclaimed "film lover" and watches 50 to 60 movies a year.

During weekdays, Van Engen tries to achieve his ultimate goal—to become a better teacher.

Movie
Continued from page 8

and *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*. Segel begins the film as nothing more than a moocher at an open house searching for "cougars" or "divorcees." Rashida Jones (*The Office*) plays the pretty and encouraging girlfriend Zooey. Jones does not do much to stand out from the other hilarious players in the film but then again that is not what her character is supposed to do. The film also sees contributions from a great set of supporting actors that include Jon Favreau, Jamie Pressly, and J. K. Simmons. The real standout of the

film however is Andy Samberg, who plays Rudd's younger, gay brother Robbie. Anyone who has seen an episode of *Saturday Night Live* in the past few years knows what Samberg is capable of. From the moment Robbie appears on screen, you wish the movie would focus on him.

Writer/director John Hamburg (*Along Came Polly*, *Meet the Parents*) takes a solid script and drives home this hilarious comedy. Hamburg does a good job of balancing the large amount of talent in this film, as well as provides interesting locations throughout the film. The real achievement of Hamburg is not giving into the norm of

Walsh, another English teacher, inspires his teaching.

"My teaching is based off her teaching," said Van Engen. "But I doubt that [Walsh] has given many detentions."

Van Engen's earliest role models, though, do not come from his high school. These individuals are people who knew him before he ever attended school.

"My parents are two people who have taught me the value of diligent work," said Van Engen. "Both of them are people who serve and give to others. I like to live by their example."

buddy comedies and making this relationship purely comical. Hamburg treats the relationship between Rudd and Segel as real as the relationship between Rudd and Jones.

March is usually a time for family comedies but this is far from it. This uproarious comedy hits the right notes throughout the entire course of the movie. Although the last third of the movie slows the pace of the film, overall this film keeps laugh after laugh rolling off the screen. *I Love You, Man* is the best comedy of 2009, and it will take a near perfect film to dethrone it.

Smitty Continued from page 1

Administration also expressed gratitude for the years Smith has spent at O’Gorman.

“I was suprised and saddened because Mr. Smith has been a part of O’Gorman High School longer than I have been here,” said Vice Principal Mrs. Joan Mahoney. “While he certainly deserves to enjoy his retirement, he will be sorely missed.”

Smith will not be helping out with marching band next school year because, he says, that would not be fair his replacement.

“Maybe years down the road that would be possible. My replacement will have to come in and establish themselves as ‘the band director’ and not have me hanging around,” said Smith. “I’ll probably go park in the Olive Garden parking lot with binoculars and then email them at the end of the day,” said Smith, jokingly.

Of his time at O’Gorman, Smith

will miss the students the most.

“We really have good kids. Band kids are the best kids. Anywhere, any school, they’re the best kids. They know what it’s like to be dedicated to something and spend a lot of time with something and sometimes not be appreciated for all the time they spend.”

As for a favorite memory, Smith said, “Some of the years just run together. I don’t think there’s any one particular incident or day or performance that sticks out in my mind – just the overall view of how things came together, starting out from scratch.”

Smith said that when he started directing, there were only 60 students in the band. There are 152 registered for band next year.

“And we’ve run out of storage room for horns, we’ve had to get new uniforms twice since I’ve been here,” said Smith.

“It’s just been a great experience, it’s a great school, great people work here, but the best part of it is the kids, by far the best part,” said Smith.

“Kids have a way of inspiring you



MELISSA RUSHING / KNIGHT SCROLL

Mr. Smith tells one of his many stories of O’Gorman High School during an interview with a member the *Knight Legend Yearbook* staff.

and firing you up while at the same time dragging you down.”

The position of band director for the 2009-2010 school year has

been advertised, and Mahoney said that the “process to replace him is just beginning.”

Smith will not be playing any

part in the hiring of a new director and has no one in mind he would want to take over as director of the band.

Cathedral Continued from page 1

Seventy-five students, from kindergarten through sixth grade, are enrolled in Cathedral. There are six classroom teachers because third grade and fourth grade have seven and six students, respectively.

Next year, 70 students are projected to attend Cathedral. Out of 70, only ten are projected to be from Cathedral Parish itself.

“[The reason for the consolidation] was mainly demographics,” said Lorang. “During the last five years, we have opened two new elementary schools. Students are living outside the [I-229] interstate loop. Part of our mission is to have schools close to our children. When we studied where the students lived, this plan made sense.”

The six classroom teachers will be accommodated during the consolidation. Lorang has promised every teacher and other Cathedral staff—such as the custodian, librarian, educational assistant and secretary—a job at another school. However, teachers might have to teach different grades at different schools.

“All current employees that want to continue working for Sioux Falls Catholic Schools will be employed. We will place everyone that wants to be placed,” said Lorang. “We will not create jobs, but there are openings. St. Lambert, for example, has three openings, so three of the six teachers could go there.”

The decision to consolidate was made after examining many alternatives. In 2003, a pilot program was initiated to encourage students from Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Josephine Bakhita to attend Cathedral. The pilot program offered these two parishes’ students reduced tuition to attend Cathedral. Enrollment peaked at 102 students but then receded to 75 this year.

Faculty and staff from Cathedral, St. Lambert and Christ the King were informed before the news of Cathedral’s consolidation reached the public. The parents of current Cathedral students were informed through a special meeting.

“Cathedral has a rich history, and parents were anxious at first because they did not know how we were gong to accommodate the students,” said Lorang. “[Parents and students] were accepting after we met with them, but they are still saddened because something they are familiar with will be gone. It is like the nostalgia that O’Gorman alumni have for old O-Wing or old G-Wing.”

“Any time the topic was being discussed, it was difficult to try and control my emotions,” said Lown. “I wanted to do everything I could to persuade the Board to keep it open. Both my wife and I have a real passion for the place. We sent our three kids there and know firsthand just how special it is. It was a hard pill for me to swallow.”

In February 2008, a committee was established to “explore options” for St. Joseph Cathedral. The committee proposed the plan for Cathedral’s consolidation. Next, the proposal went to the Sioux Falls Catholic School Board for a vote.

“I voted against [the proposal], but I do not think that anyone who voted in favor of the consolidation is particularly proud of that decision,” said Lown. “I do not believe anyone on the board really wanted it to happen.”

“I voted for the proposal,” said Mr. Jim Josten, a second-generation Cathedral alumnus and a School Board member, representing the SFCS Foundation. “I cannot speak for any other Board member but for myself. I prayed and thought about what is the best for students, parents, the staff and school system.”

The School Board voted to adopt the committee’s plan in January 2009 and therefore recommended the plan to Bishop Paul Swain. The Bishop approved the plan in February 2009.

“As we as a diocese continue to work through the pastoral planning process, tough decisions like this will occur because they reflect the reality of our day,” said Swain. “But in the end, we trust that we will have stronger Catholic schools and parishes which will serve the needs of the people in the best way possible.”

Since Cathedral has a vibrant history, the

Diocese is examining another educational use for the building. The Bishop has directed The Director of Catholic Schools Mr. Matt Althoff to study and determine another use for the building.

“My goal at this point is to make sure that the children who will be displaced by this the disruption are accommodated and made to feel welcome at the other elementary schools,” said Althoff. “The Bishop has given me no timeline [for determining another use]. However, we intend to explore all options and all other models for continuing education in the Catholic tradition at St. Joseph Cathedral.”

Althoff also said that finding a viable model will require identifying an audience. This will be a challenge with the fewer number of Catholic students living in the Cathedral neighborhood. Decreasing enrollments can also be seen as a trend throughout the north side of Sioux Falls. The last school that was consolidated was St. Therese Little Flower School, also on the north side. Little Flower students joined St. Lambert School.

“The demographics have changed,” said Lorang. “Sioux Falls has both huge growth and declining enrollment. Most of South Dakota has decreasing enrollment.”

The last school the Sioux Falls Public School District consolidated was Lincoln Elementary. This consolidation was unlike Cathedral’s, though, because the school was permanently shut down.

“We closed down Lincoln Elementary in the mid-Nineties because the facility was older and did not have the capacity for technology we wanted to use in the classrooms,” said Ms. DeeAnn Konrad, Sioux Falls Public Schools’ Community Relations Supervisor. “We have built some elementary schools since then, but in the center of the city is where we see some receding enrollment.”

Receding enrollment, as Lorang said, is also an issue that has prompted the consolidation debate in South Dakota. A South Dakota law, passed in 2007, mandates that if a school district’s K-12 enrollment drops to 100 or fewer students and if the district is not “considered sparse,” the school is required to reorganize.

Unlike Cathedral, however, the school building is not necessarily retained for an educational purpose.

“In some instances, [consolidated school buildings] are used by the newly consolidated district—elementary programs are kept in both communities and the junior high and high school programs are combined,” said Ms. Mary Stadick Smith, Communications Director for the SD Department of Education. “We have had instances where the buildings were donated to the city to be used as community centers. It really depends on the condition and age of the building.”

Also, teachers’ jobs are not necessarily secure in other districts. For example, Mr. Matt Pollock, the Principal of Conde School, a school that is facing “forced consolidation,” mentioned that since Conde School “is dissolving,” teachers will have to find their own jobs.

“In some cases, teachers from an old district may be hired by the newly reorganized district. But in some cases, they may not,” said Stadick Smith. “It would depend on need as well as financial resources available.”

Although Cathedral’s consolidation might be difficult for students, alumni, and teachers to face, they have solace in the fact that everyone will be accommodated and that Cathedral might reopen for another educational purpose. Also, generations of alumni have irreplaceable memories that they still treasure.

“In sixth grade, my class went on an all day field trip,” said senior Sarah Renner, a Cathedral alumnus. “We took the school’s large van which seated fourteen people, and so there was a lot of extra room. We all went out to eat, to the movie Holes in theaters, and then out to get ice cream at McDonald’s. Having such a small class size allowed us to take bigger trips like this.”

“It will be tough not to have Cathedral students playing on the playground anymore or not to hear them singing at Mass anymore,” said Josten. “But in decisions like these, you are torn between your allegiance to the school and what really is best for the school system as a whole.”



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